

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): An airbag for preventing the lower body portion of a vehicle occupant from being propelled during a collision, comprising:

- a front panel made from a rigid material;
- a back panel made from a rigid material and attached to the front panel to form an inflatable chamber for receiving inflation fluid; and
- an adapter unit ~~in communication~~ integrally formed as one piece with the back panel and securely attachable to a diffuser portion of an inflator.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The airbag of claim 2 1, wherein the adapter unit further comprises an impression formed in the back panel, the impression comprising a first end portion configured to receive the inflator.

Claim 4 (original): The airbag of claim 3, wherein the first end portion comprises an orifice having a first diameter, the first diameter being larger than the diameter of the inflator.

Claim 5 (original): The airbag of claim 4, further comprising a sealing wedge disposed between the inflator and the first end portion.

Claim 6 (original): The airbag of claim 3, wherein the first end portion comprises an orifice having a first diameter that is smaller than or equal to the diameter of the inflator, and wherein the adapter unit is securely attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator through a press fit.

Claim 7 (original): The airbag of claim 3, further comprising a fastener attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator, and wherein the impression further comprises a second end portion configured to receive the fastener.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The airbag of claim 2 1, wherein the adapter unit comprises an orifice formed in the back panel.

Claim 9 (original): The airbag of claim 8, wherein the back panel further comprises a lip portion encompassing the orifice, the lip portion being configured to prevent the diffuser portion of the inflator from becoming separated from the adapter unit during discharge of the inflator.

Claim 10-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (original): The airbag of claim 1, wherein the rigid material comprises sheet metal.

Claim 17 (original): The airbag of claim 1, wherein the rigid material comprises a plastic material.

Claim 18 (currently amended): An airbag system for preventing a vehicle occupant from being propelled during a collision, comprising:

- a front panel made from a rigid material;
- a back panel made from a rigid material and attached to the front panel to form an inflatable chamber for receiving inflation fluid;
- an adapter unit ~~in communication~~ integrally formed as one piece with the back panel; and
- an inflator having a diffuser portion, the diffuser portion being attached to the adapter unit.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (currently amended): The airbag system of claim ~~49~~ 18, wherein the adapter unit further comprises an impression formed in the back panel, the impression comprising a first end portion configured to receive the inflator.

Claim 21 (original): The airbag system of claim 20, wherein the first end portion comprises an orifice having a first diameter, the first diameter being larger than the diameter of the inflator.

Claim 22 (original): The airbag system of claim 21, further comprising a sealing wedge disposed between the inflator and the first end portion.

Claim 23 (original): The airbag system of claim 20, wherein the first end portion comprises an orifice having a first diameter that is smaller than or equal to the diameter of the inflator, and wherein the adapter unit is securely attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator through a press fit.

Claim 24 (original): The airbag system of claim 20, further comprising a fastener attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator, and wherein the impression further comprises a second end portion configured to receive the fastener.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The airbag system of claim ~~49~~ 18, wherein the adapter unit comprises an orifice formed in the back panel.

Claim 26 (original): The airbag system of claim 25, wherein the back panel further comprises a lip portion encompassing the orifice, the lip portion being configured to prevent the diffuser portion of the inflator from becoming separated from the adapter unit during discharge of the inflator.

Claim 27-32 (canceled)

Claim 33 (original): The airbag system of claim 18, wherein the rigid material comprises sheet metal.

Claim 34 (original): The airbag system of claim 18, wherein the rigid material comprises a plastic material.

Claim 35 (currently amended): An airbag system for preventing a vehicle occupant from being propelled during a collision, comprising:

- a front panel made from a rigid material, the front panel having a first side and a second side;

- a decorative trim panel attached to the first side of the front panel;

- a back panel made from a rigid material and attached to the second side of the front panel to form an inflatable chamber for receiving inflation fluid;

- an adapter unit ~~in communication~~ integrally formed as one piece with the back panel; and
- an inflator having a diffuser portion, the diffuser portion being attached to the adapter unit.

Claim 36 (canceled)

Claim 37 (currently amended): The airbag system of claim ~~36~~ 35, wherein the adapter unit further comprises an impression formed in the back panel, the impression comprising a first end portion configured to receive the inflator.

Claim 38 (original): The airbag system of claim 37, wherein the first end portion comprises an orifice having a first diameter, the first diameter being larger than the diameter of the inflator.

Claim 39 (original): The airbag system of claim 38, further comprising a sealing wedge disposed between the inflator and the first end portion.

Claim 40 (original): The airbag system of claim 37, wherein the first end portion comprises an orifice having a first diameter that is smaller than or equal to the diameter of the inflator, and wherein the adapter unit is securely attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator through a press fit.

Claim 41 (original): The airbag system of claim 37, further comprising a fastener attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator, and wherein the impression further comprises a second end portion configured to receive the fastener.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The airbag system of claim ~~36~~ 35, wherein the adapter unit comprises an orifice formed in the back panel.

Claim 43 (original): The airbag system of claim 42, wherein the back panel further comprises a lip portion encompassing the orifice, the lip portion being configured to prevent the diffuser portion of the inflator from becoming separated from the adapter unit during discharge of the inflator.

Claim 44-49 (canceled)

Claim 50 (original): The airbag system of claim 35, wherein the rigid material comprises sheet metal.

Claim 51 (original): The airbag system of claim 35, wherein the rigid material comprises a plastic material.

Claim 52 (new): The airbag of claim 3, wherein the impression is configured to contain the diffuser portion of the inflator.

Claim 53 (new): The airbag of claim 7, wherein the fastener is a connector stud.

Claim 54 (new): The airbag of claim 7, wherein the second end portion comprises a small orifice disposed to receive the fastener of the inflator.

Claim 55 (new): The airbag system of claim 20, wherein the diffuser portion of the inflator is disposed within the impression.

Claim 56 (new): The airbag system of claim 24, wherein the fastener is a connector stud.

Claim 57 (new): The airbag system of claim 24, wherein the second end portion comprises a small orifice, wherein the fastener extends through the small orifice.

Claim 58 (new): The airbag system of claim 37, wherein the diffuser portion of the inflator is disposed within the impression.

Claim 59 (new): The airbag system of claim 41, wherein the fastener is a connector stud.

Claim 60 (new): The airbag system of claim 41, wherein the second end portion comprises a small orifice, wherein the fastener extends through the small orifice.